providing the opportunity to locate our facility here. We look forward to a strong partnership in the years ahead."

The One NC Fund provides financial assistance, through local governments, to attract business projects that will stimulate economic activity and create new jobs in the state. Companies receive no money up front and must meet job creation and investment performance standards to qualify for grant funds. These grants also require and are contingent upon local matches.

"For years, we have told skeptics that businesses are looking for more than just the lowest bidder, that they want a first rate workforce, an efficient transportation network and other critical pieces of infrastructure," said Rep. Hugh Holliman, of Lexington. "Announcements like today's good news from Save-A-Lot are proof that we chose the right course."

North Carolina continues to have a top-ranked business climate. Through Gov. Perdue's JobsNOW initiative, the state works aggressively to create jobs, train and retrain its workforce, and lay the foundation for a strong and sustainable economic future.

Through use of the One NC Fund, more than 45,000 jobs and \$8 billion in investment have been created since 2001. Other partners that helped with this project include: the N.C. Department of Commerce, the City of Lexington, Davidson County, Davidson County Community College and the Davidson County Economic Development Commission.

For more information about Save-A-Lot, including job opportunities with the company, go to <u>save-a-lot.com</u>.

###